

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



#4

Inventor Patent Application of

OGATA et al

Atty. Ref.: 461-66

Serial No. 09/722,317

Group: 1751

Filed: November 28, 2000

Examiner:

For: WIDE-RANGE TYPE THERMISTOR ELEMENT  
AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME

\* \* \* \* \*

June 20, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attention is directed to the attached Japanese Office Action for a counterpart of this application and each reference cited therein. A PTO-1449 is also attached.

Official consideration and citation of each such reference is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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NOTICE OF REASONS FOR REJECTION

Mailing No.: 122985

Mailing date: April 23, 2002

Patent Application No.: Japanese Patent Application HEI No.9-340313

Drafting date: April 16, 2002

Patent Office Examiner: Hiroshi Ebata 7509 5R00

Attorney for Applicant: Shoji Ito (and 1 other)

Patent Law Text: Article 29, Paragraph 2

It is deemed that the present application should be rejected for the following reasons. In the case of an opposing opinion a written argument should be submitted within 60 days from the mailing date of this notice.

Reason

The inventions relating to the following claims of the present application could have been easily invented by a person having ordinary skill in the field of the invention prior to the present filing date, based on the inventions described in the following publications which were distributed in Japan and abroad prior to the present filing date, and are therefore unworthy of patenting pursuant to the Japanese Patent Law, Article 29, Paragraph 2.

(See List of Cited Documents)

\* Claims: 1, 2, 3, 7

\* Cited documents: 1, 2

\* Remarks:

Each of the cited documents essentially describe a

thermistor element

"composed of  $a(M1M2)O_3 \cdot bY_2O_3$ , which is a sintered mixture of the perovskite-based compound  $(M1M2)O_3$  (where M1 is Y and M2 is at least one element selected from among elements such as Cr, Mn and Ti) and  $Y_2O_3$ , where the molar percentages of a and b are in the relationship:  $0.05 \leq a < 1.0$ ,  $0 < b \leq 0.95$ ,  $a + b = 1$ ",

as according to the present application claims 1, 2, 3 and 7. (Document 1: Claims, page 4, upper column and Table 1, particularly No.3)

(Document 2: Claims, etc.)

<<List of Cited Documents>>

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 01-238101
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 01-230202

At the current time, no reasons for rejection have been found for the inventions relating to the claims other than those cited in the present Notice. If new reasons for rejection are found, a separate Notice of Reasons for Rejection will be issued.

Prior Art Document Search Results List

- Field of search: IPC, Vol.7H01C 7/02-7/22
- Prior art documents

This prior art document search results list does not constitute part of the reasons for rejection.